## Hydrologic Workshop USGS Kentucky District

## Rapid Stream Assessment Urban Stream Restoration

Don Roseboom and Tim Straub,

USGS, Illinois District



#### **Riparian Management System Multi-Species Buffer** Streambank Bioengineering Boulder Wiers Constructed/ Restored Wetland New urban stream views Streamflow Rotational Grazing

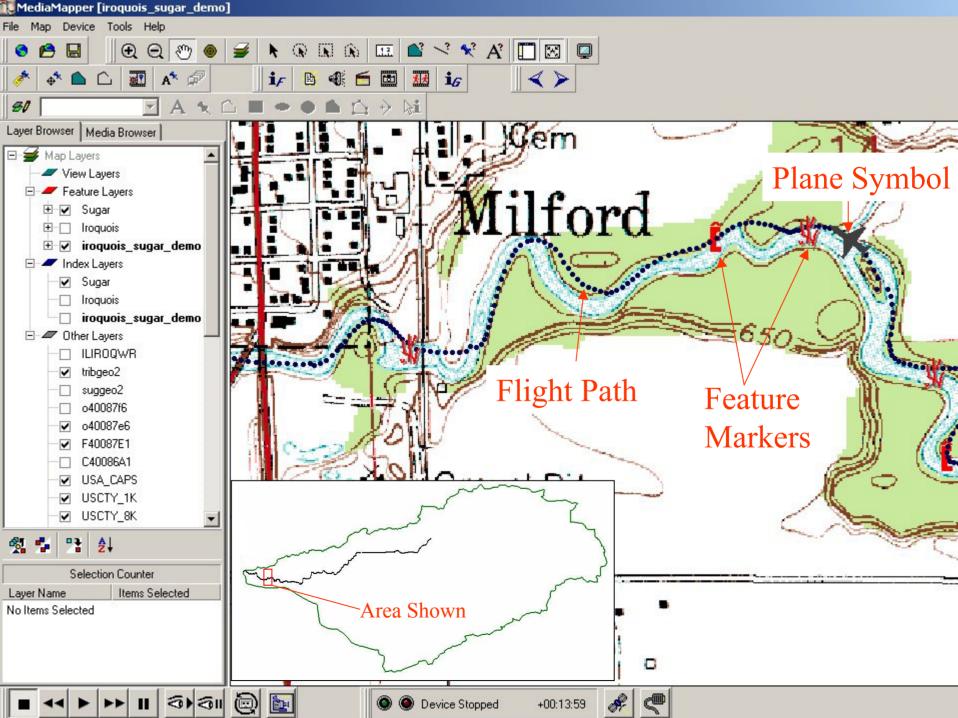
#### **Workshop Outline**

1. Rapid Assessment of Streams and Wetlands

2. Performance of Stream Bioengineering BMP after 4+ years

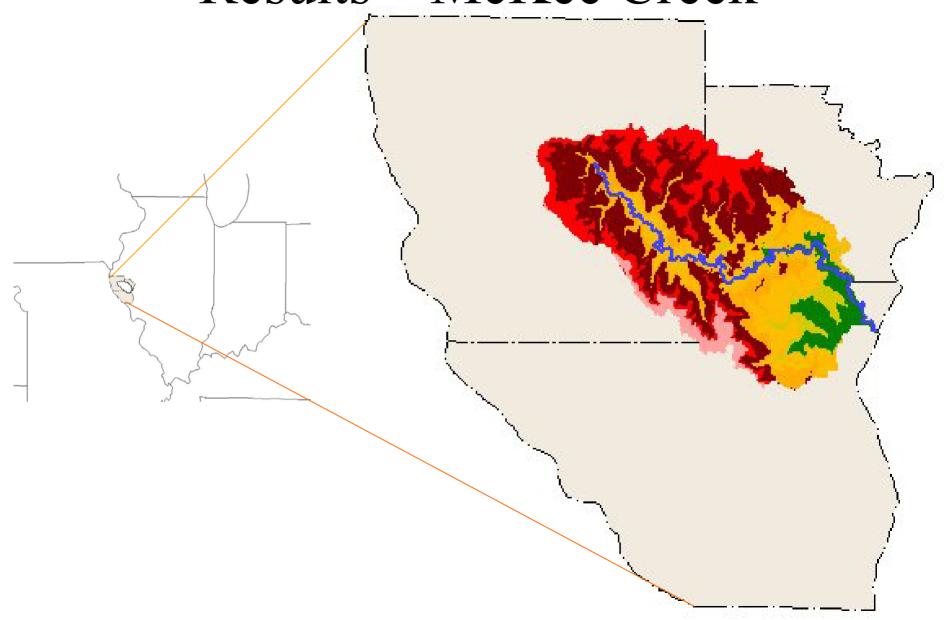








## Results – McKee Creek



# Stream Restoration begins with the streambed

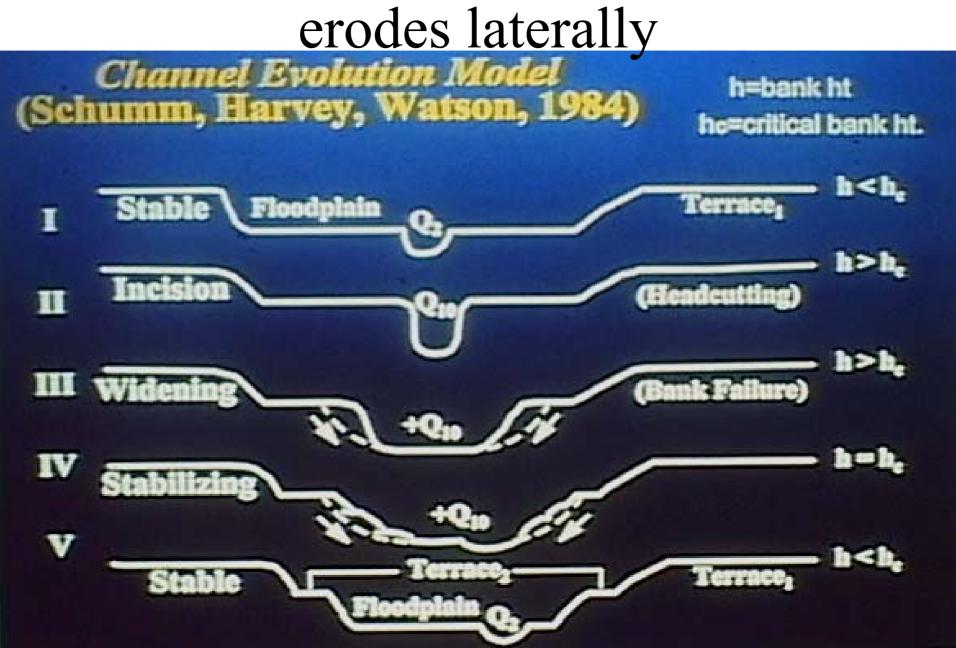
**Channel Evolution Model** 

Effects on stream restoration design

Streams now exist where no stream existed naturally. Drs. Newbury and Chester Watson examine a peat bog drainage ditch

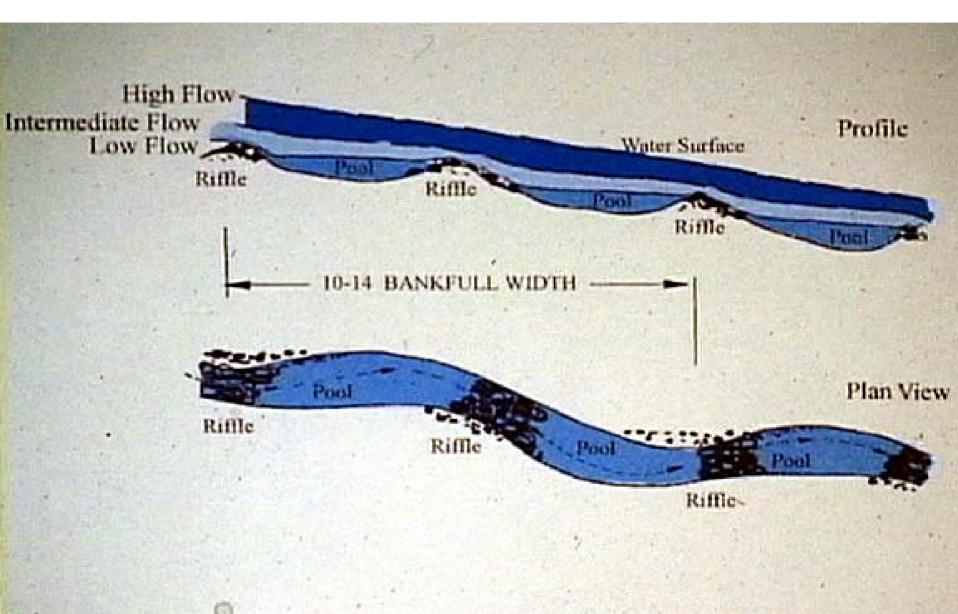
with Project Engineer. Four **Seasons** Retirement Center 4 square miles 3 miles of stream

Streambed erodes down and then erodes laterally



# Newbury Riffles (weirs, rock grade controls) in straight channelized streams





Meandering a drainage ditch into a stream in Sun City's Four Seasons Retirement Center - 4 square mile high rent development.



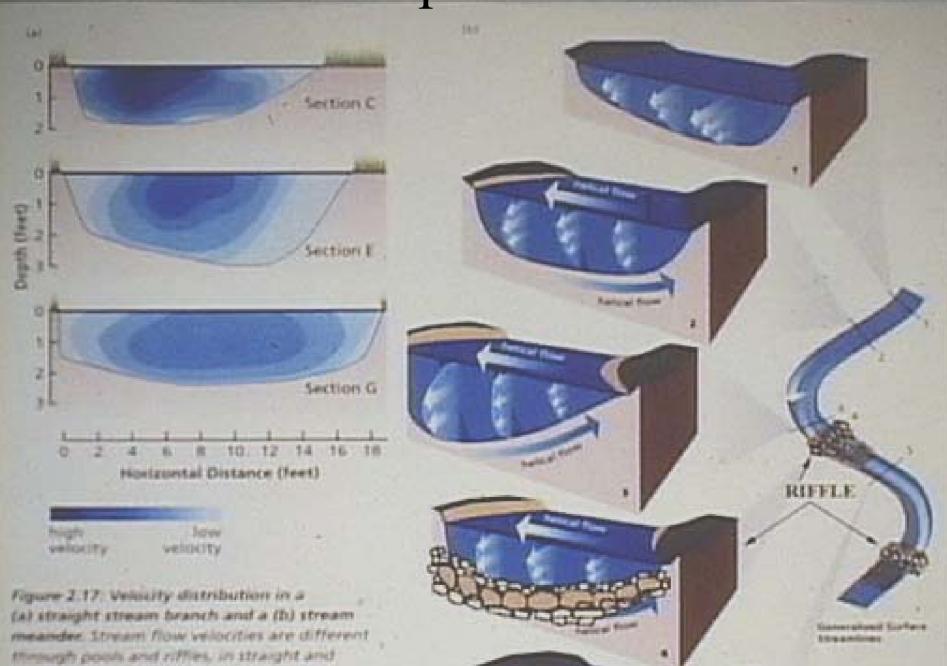
Bank restoration was Coir Logs with upper bank coir blankets. Vegetation included wetland plants and native grasses. Low rock riffles were spaced infrequently in this very low gradient stream.







Weirs breakup meander vectors

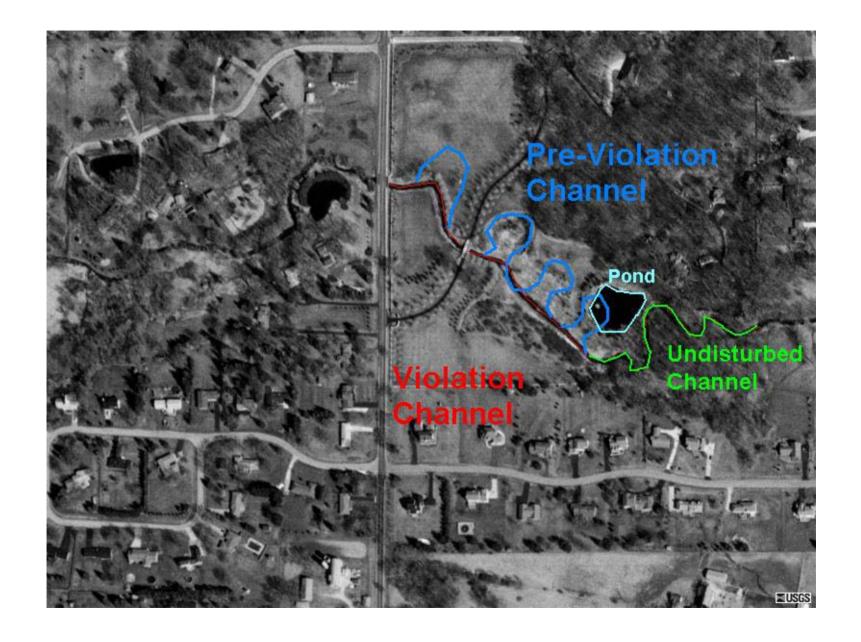


### Weirs placed in meander exits



### **Stoney Creek Project Summary**

- •Private landowners on a 40 acre estate, with Stony Creek flowing across the parcel.
- •Landowners had employed an engineer to prepare a topographic map, and engineering plans to construct an off-line pond.
- •Landowners applied for and received appropriate regulatory permits.
- •Upon starting construction, the landowner decided to remove the eroding meanders from Stony Creek, and created a straight line, unstabilized channel. The new pond was partially constructed on an old meander.
- •Regulatory hell followed......

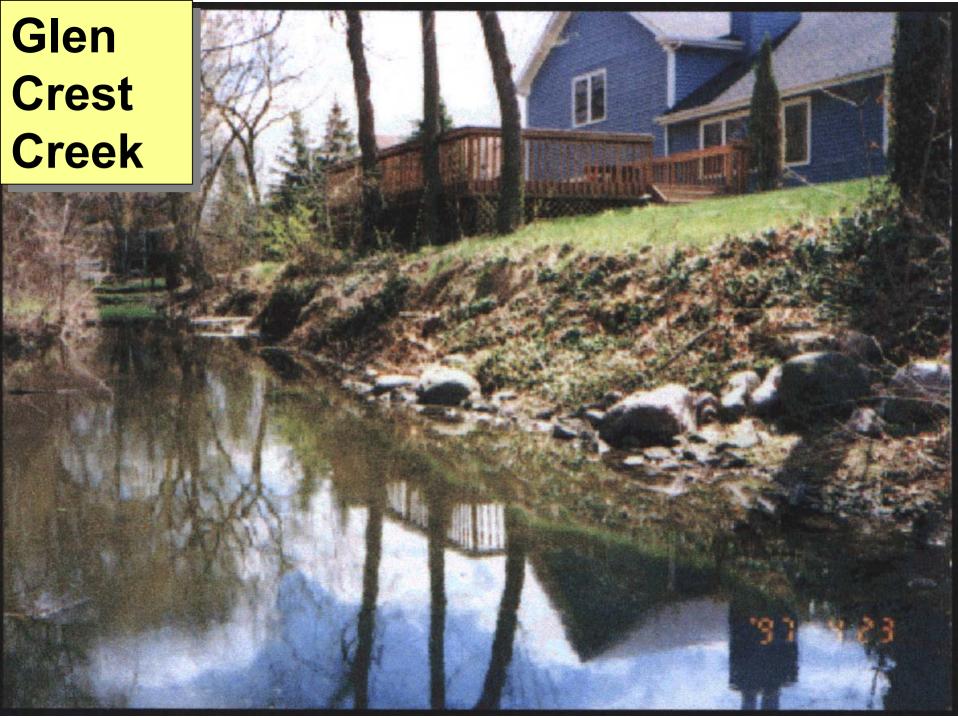




















## Soft Bioengineering in Urban Streams.

Is Everything Good?

Tim Straub and Don Roseboom
Illinois District, USGS





















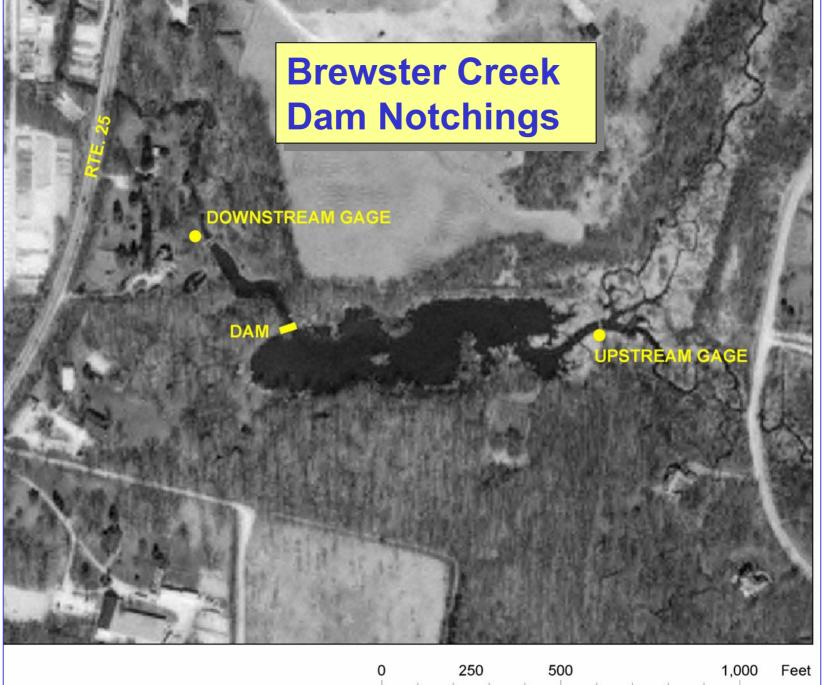










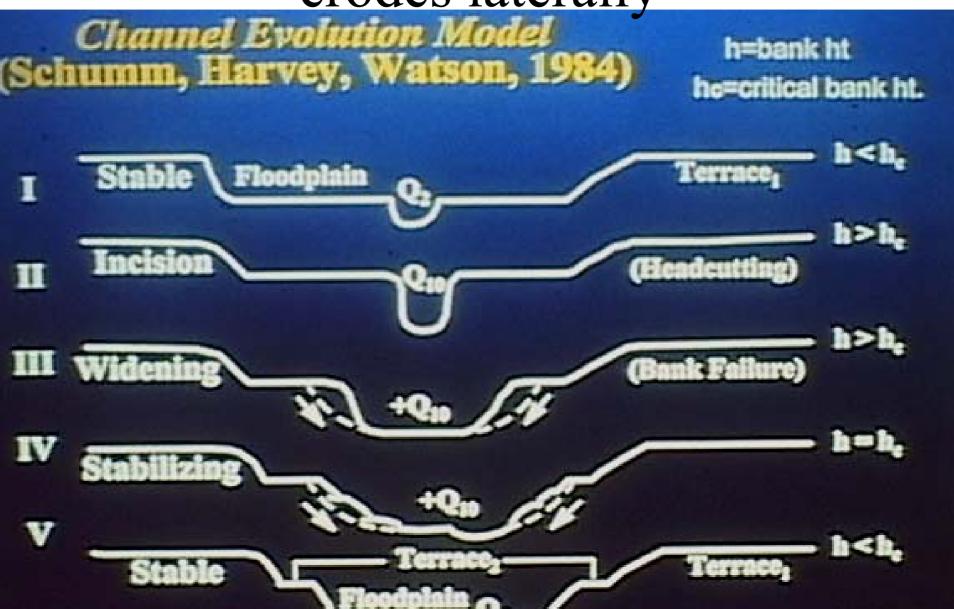








Streambed erodes down and then erodes laterally

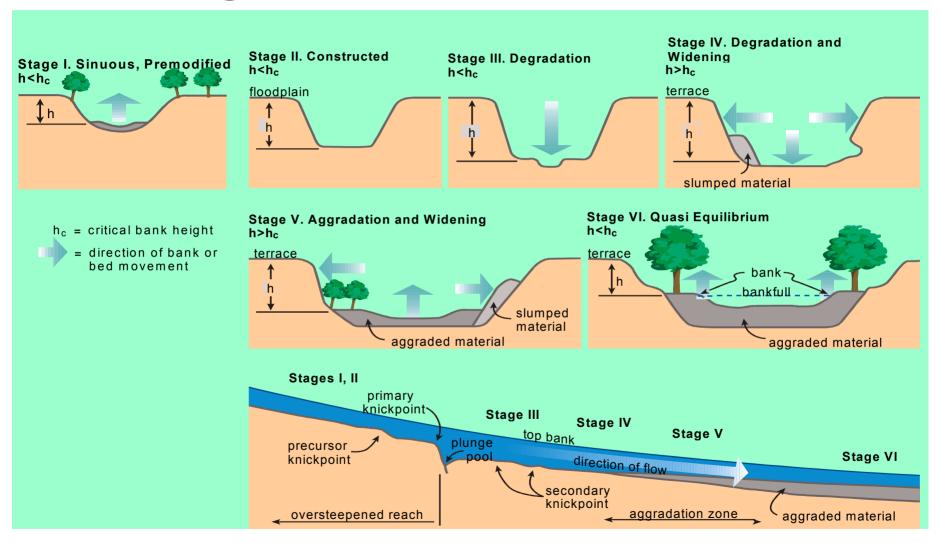








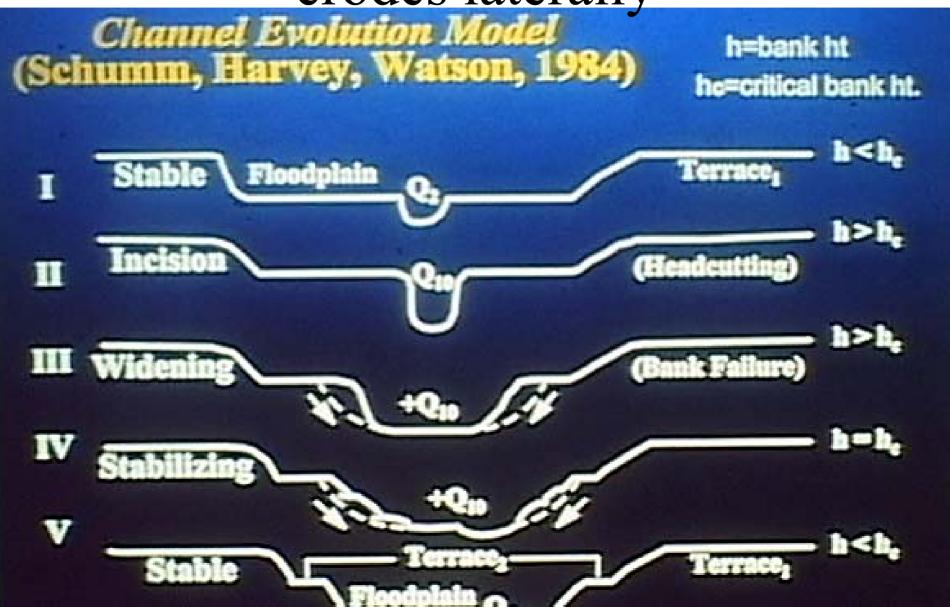
#### Stages of Channel Evolution



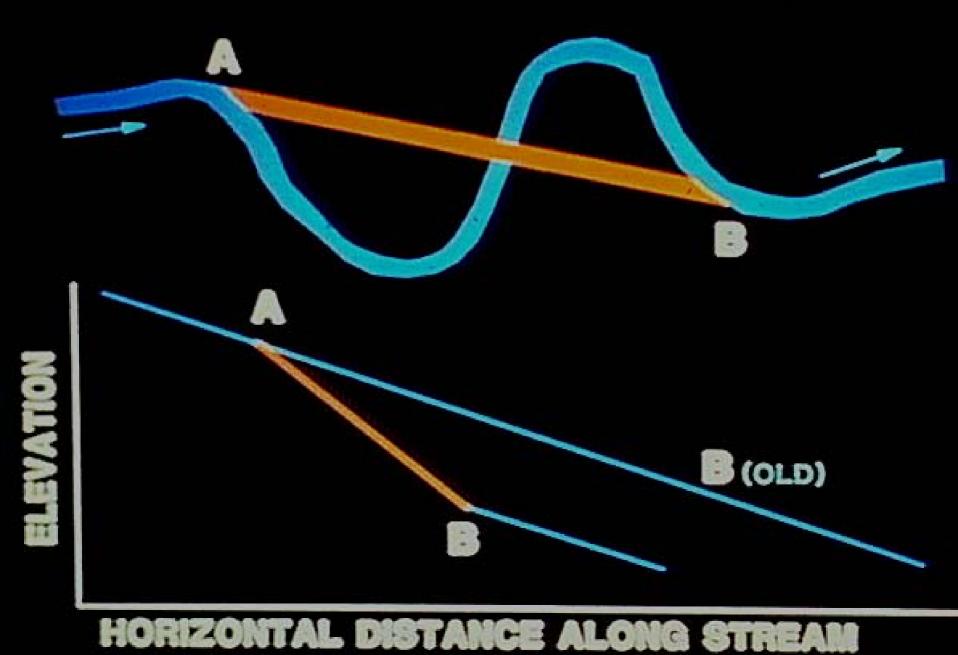


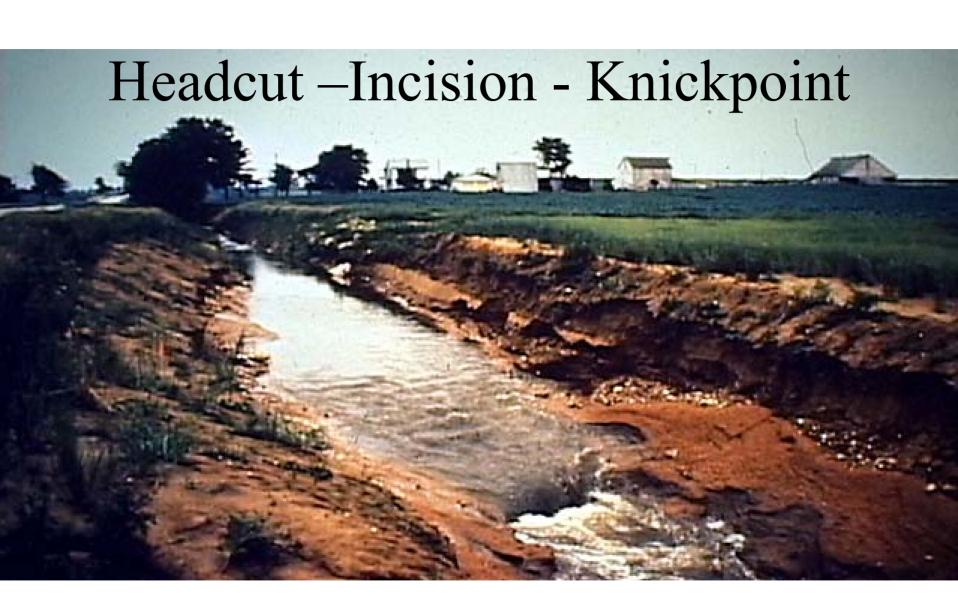


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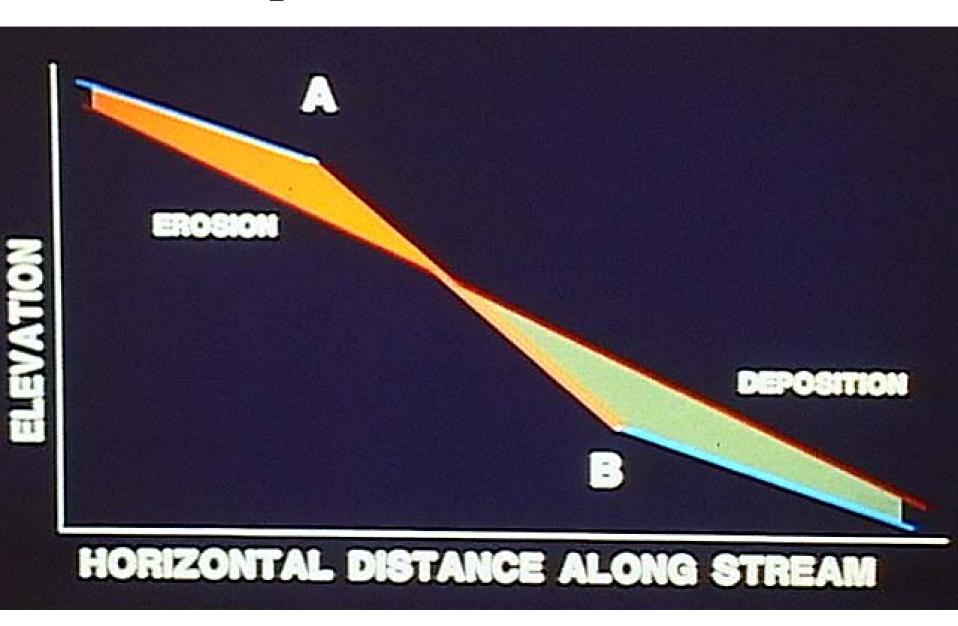


#### Channelization effect on slope

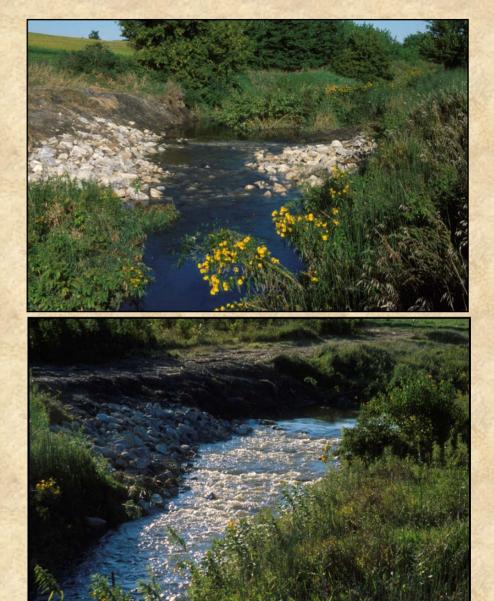




#### Slope effect on erosion

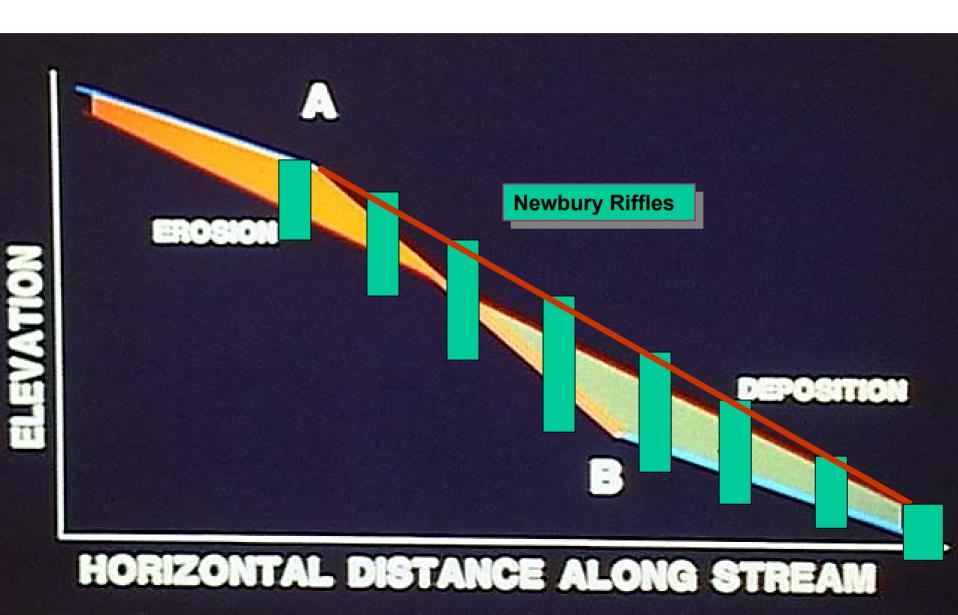






Weirs spaced about 300 ft apart. Total length of one weir about 75 ft.

#### Newbury Riffle effect on slope









### Waukegan River

National EPA Watershed Monitoring Project 1991-2003

50+ projects were reviewed. Most referenced the Waukegan River BMPs

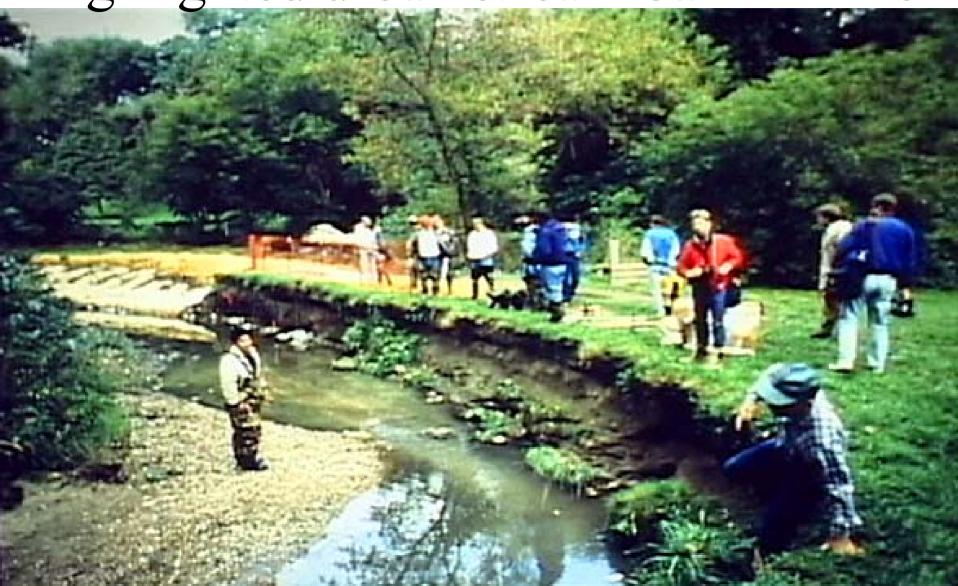
# Downtown Washington Park, channel eroded across manhole



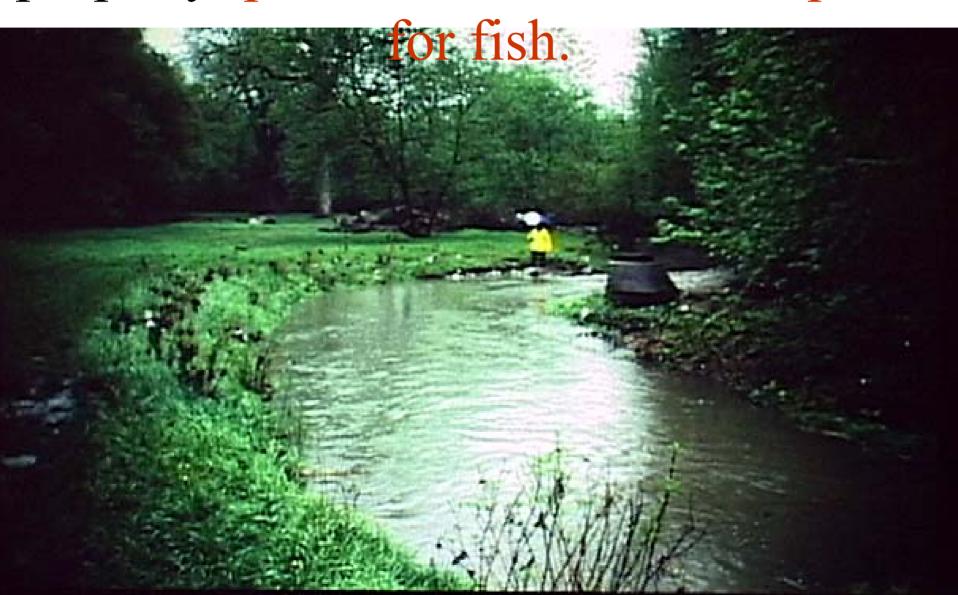
Limited pool depth during summer low flow prevented healthy fish populations



The 2<sup>nd</sup> National EPA NPS Conference highlighted urban stream bank BMPs



While bank stabilization protected property, pool and riffles were required



## Most pollution intolerant species were found in swift rock riffles



# Large salmon are not included in IBI calculation but highly valued



Urban Nonpoint Pollution killed small salmon instantly in 2000. Urban storm water quality is limiting factor.





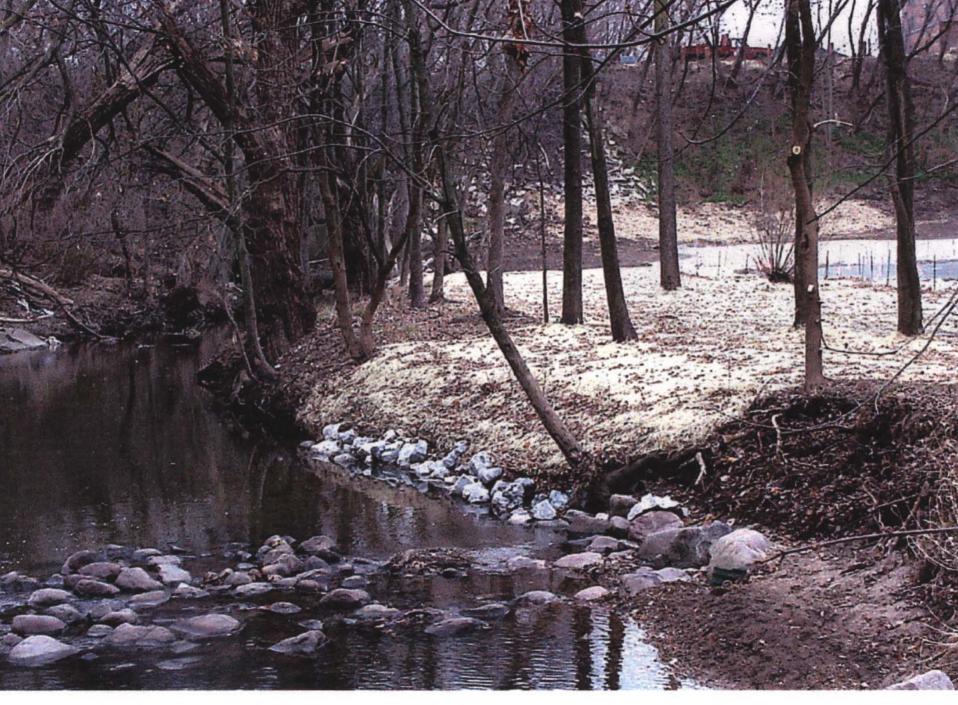


Figure 40 Otropos book some setting (offer)







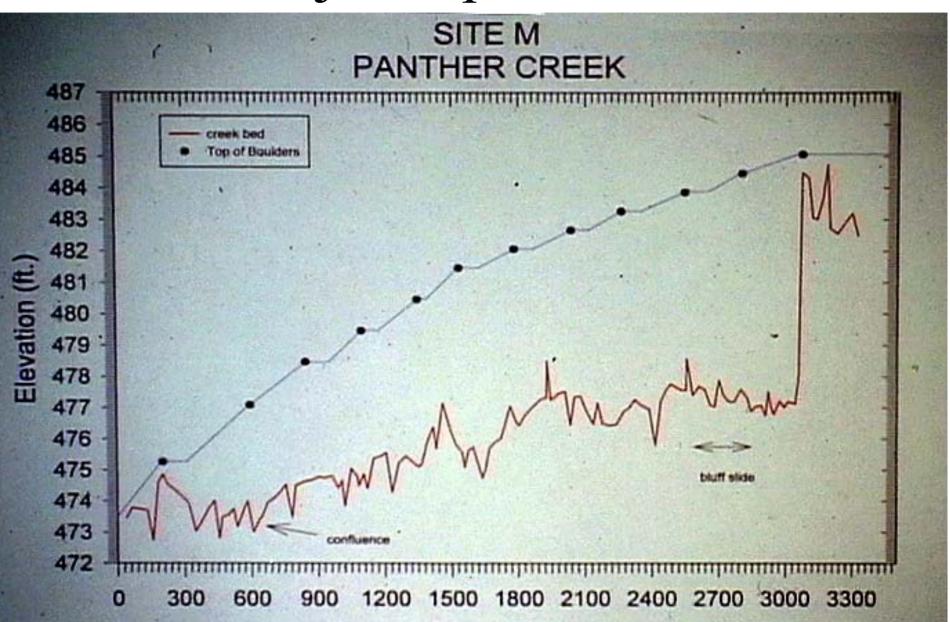




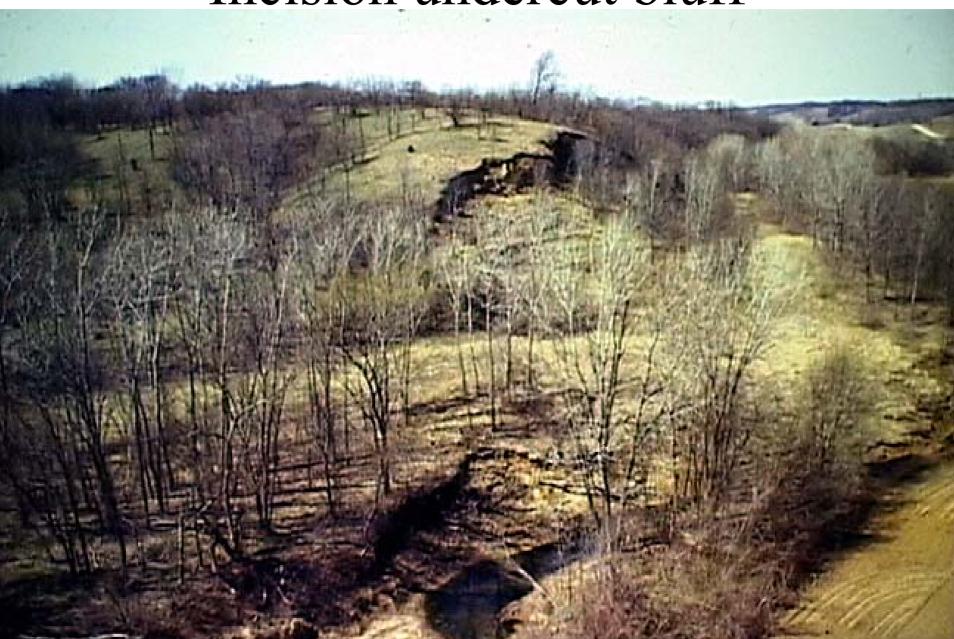
# Incision undercut trees logjams increased widening



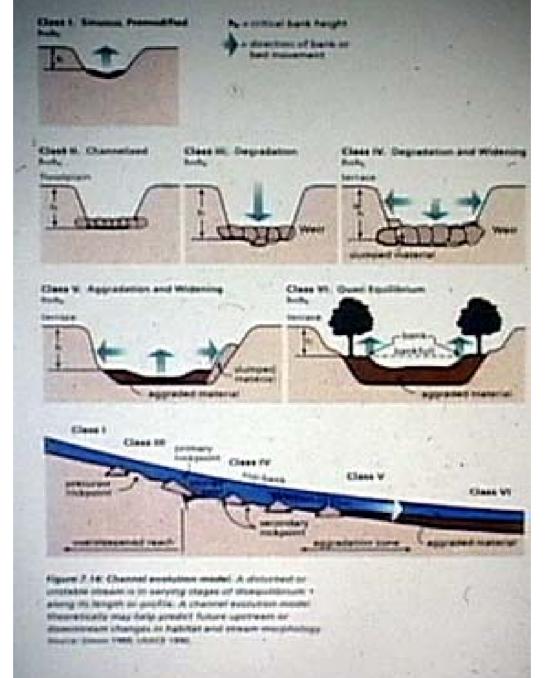
## Headcut just upstream of bluff

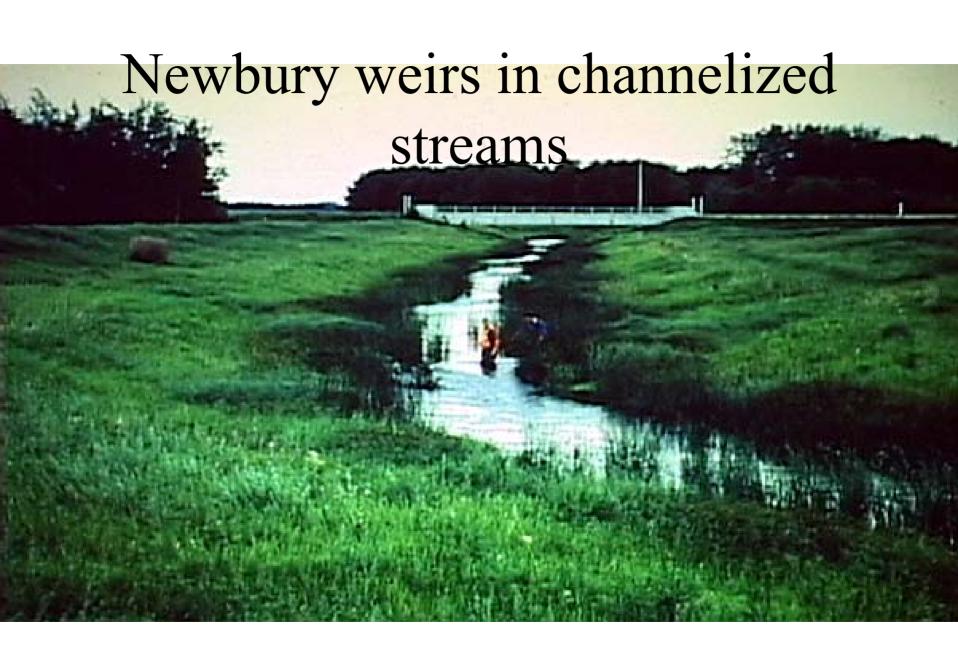


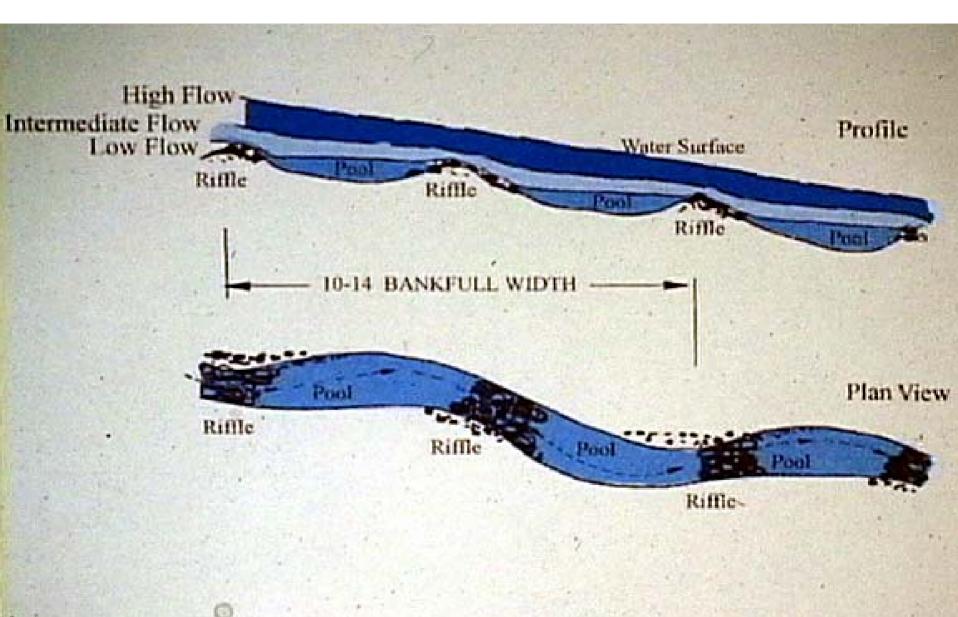
## Incision undercut bluff





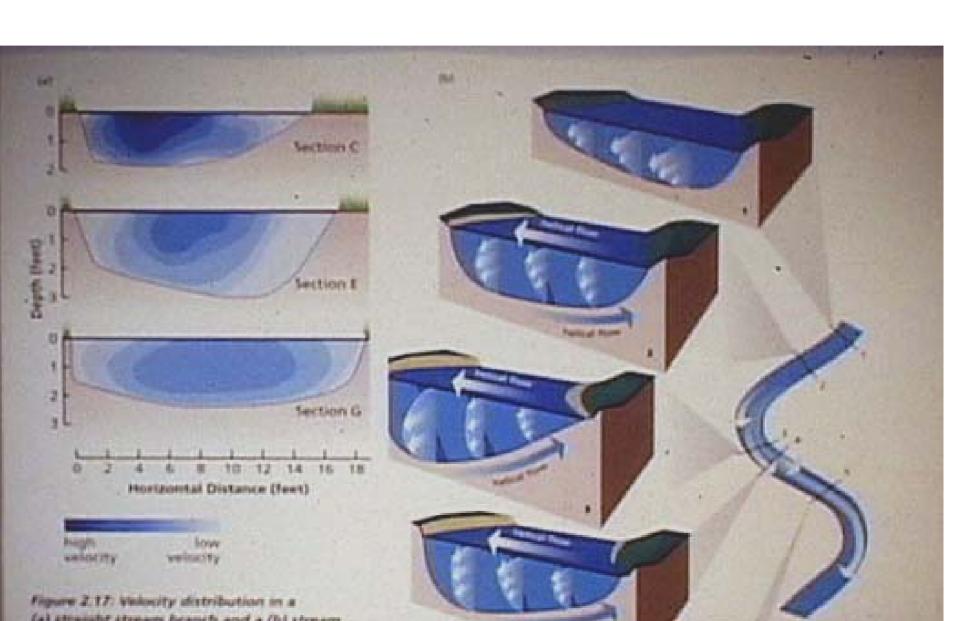








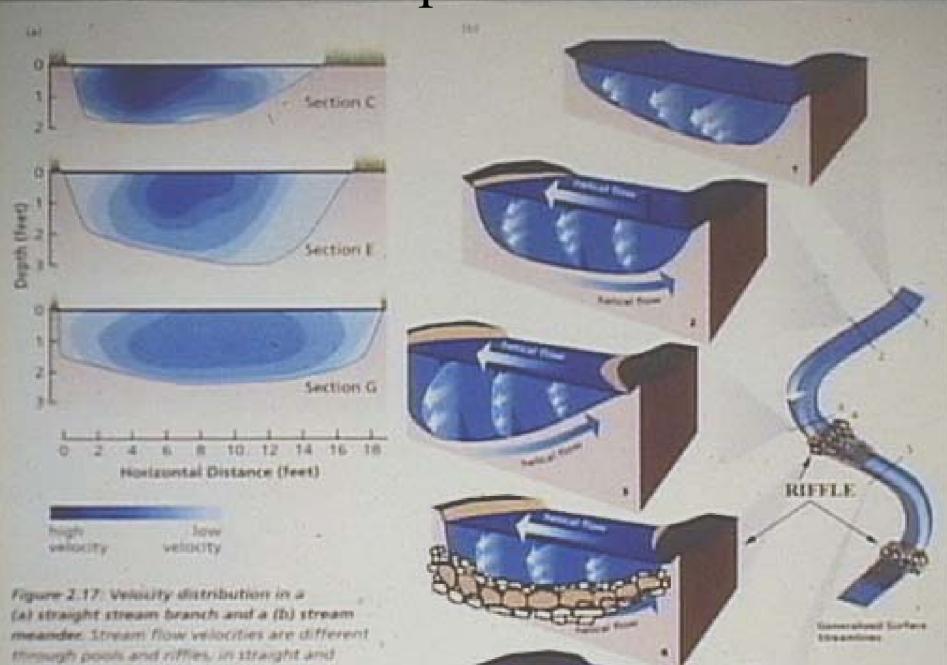
### Velocity vectors in meander



## Weirs placed in meander exits



Weirs breakup meander vectors

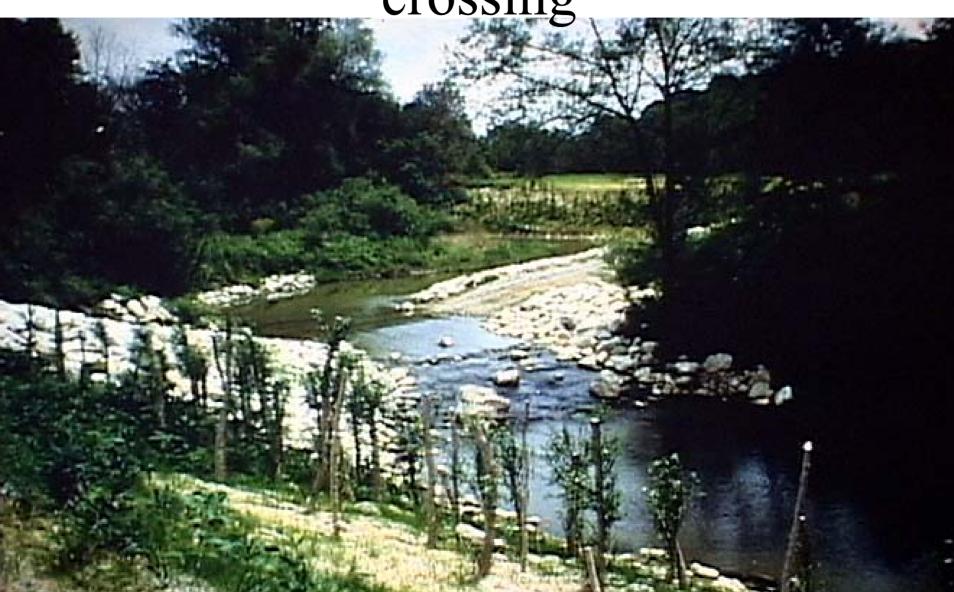




# Looking downstream of weir crossing



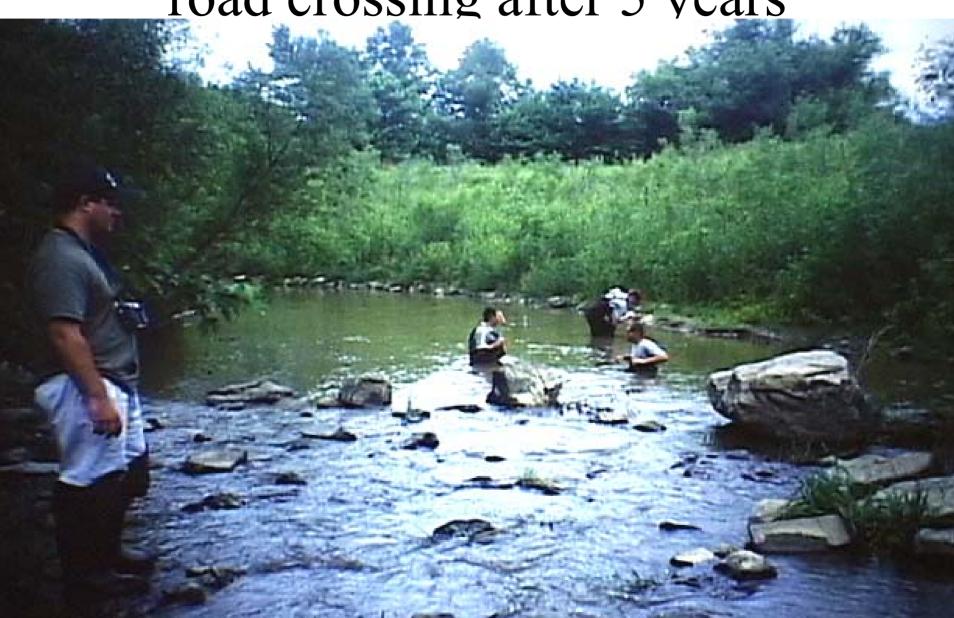
Looking upstream at weir crossing

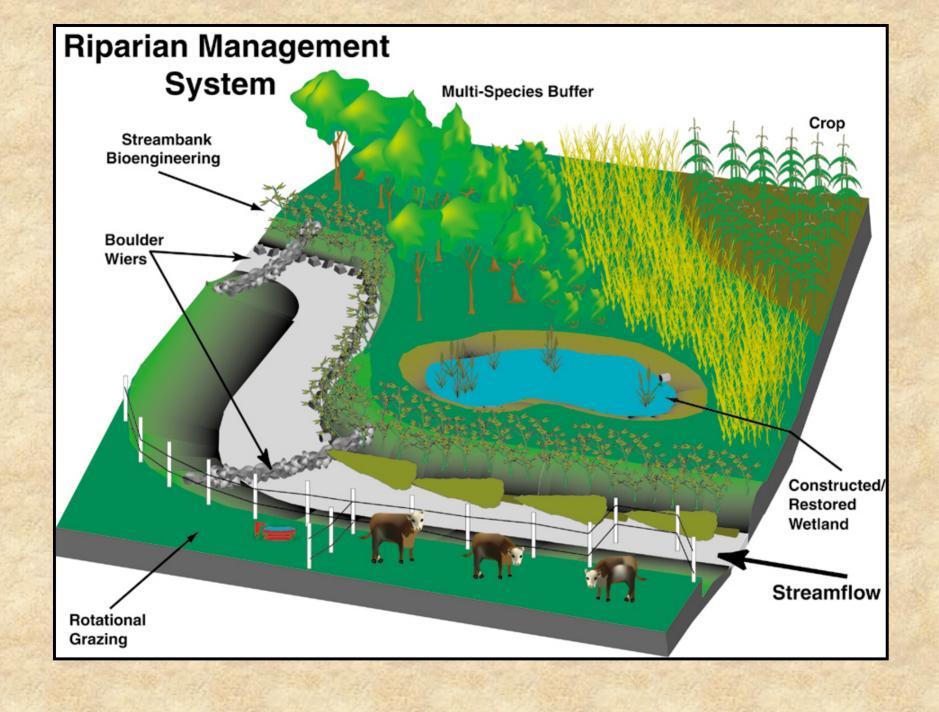


## Truck crossing weir

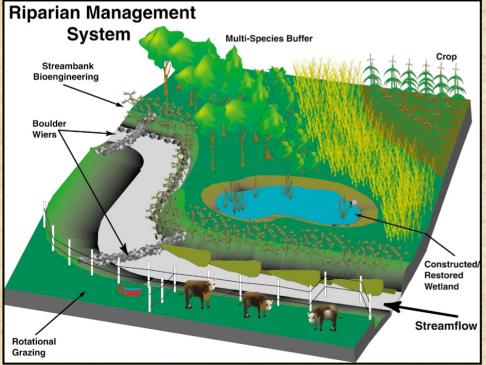


Pool depth and vegetation below road crossing after 5 years





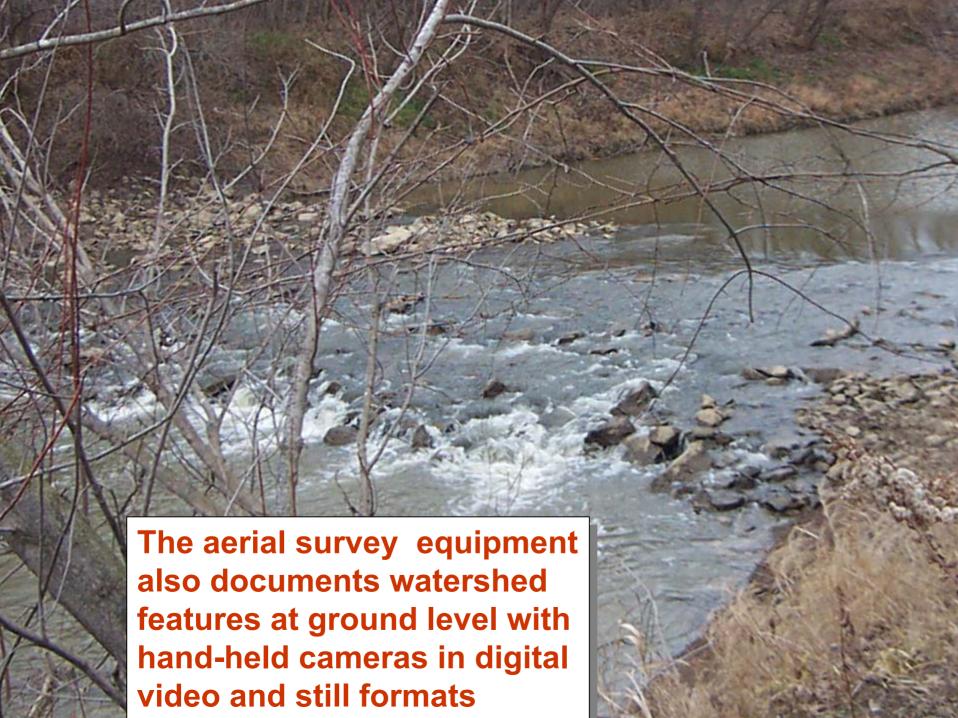




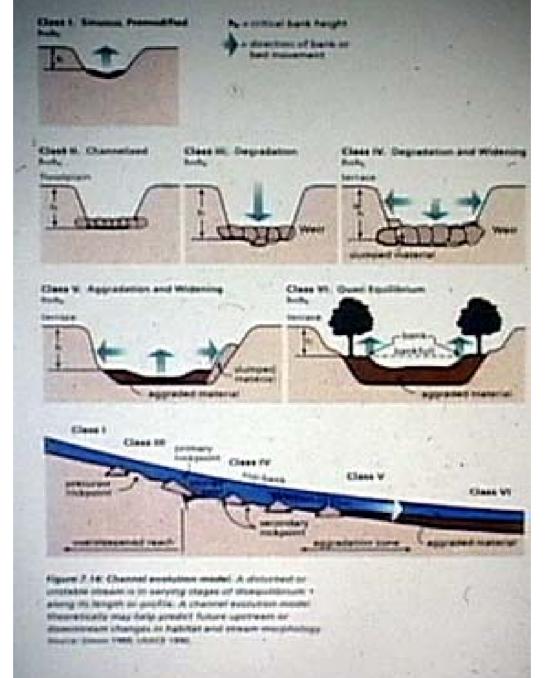
#### **Workshop Outline**

- 1. Rapid Watershed
  Assessment of Streams
  and Wetlands
- 2. Stream Channel Incision and Wetland Drainage
- 3. Rehab Illinois Streams
- 4. Bioengineering BMP performance.









Small game fish and intolerant species increased in rock riffles, deeper pools





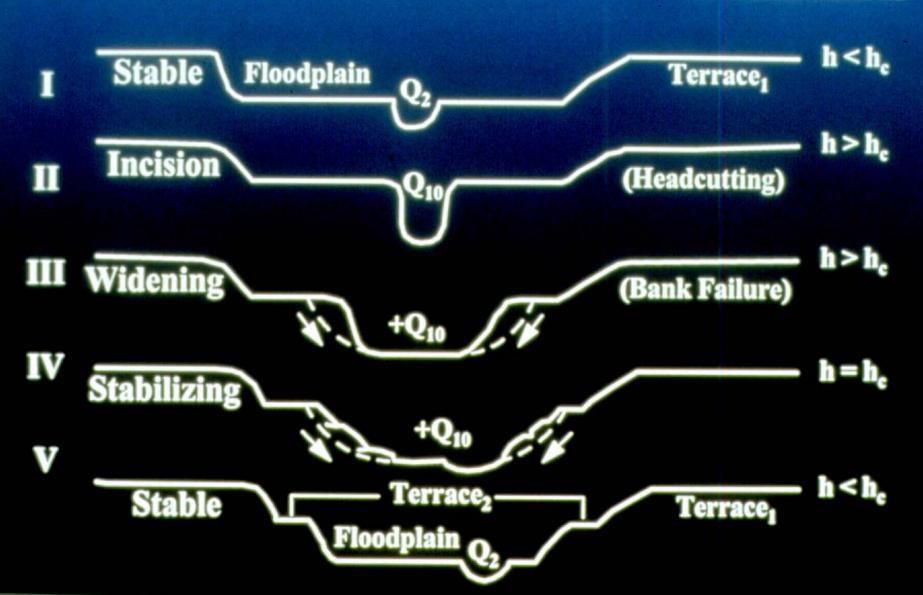
#### **Other Lessons Learned:**

• In a regulatory violation setting, a major challenge is trying to coordinate between the various regulatory interests.

•"Softer" bioengineering practices can work in high stress situations; are typically more compatible with regulatory permit staff; and help address the "no-feasible-alternative" requirements of the Section 404 program.

### Channel Evolution Model (Schumm, Harvey, Watson, 1984)

h=bank ht
he=critical bank ht.





## What Happens to Water Movement When - When Urban Areas Expand?





#### Results:

- Large % of impervious surfaces
- Compacted lawns & parks
- Rapid runoff
- High chemical load in runoff
- Streams deepen & widen
- Aquatic ecosystem destroyed
- Potential for significant flooding

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